

In the Claims:

1 1. (currently amended) A press pad adapted for use in high
2 temperature pressing equipment, comprising a woven fabric
3 that includes an amount of at least one crosslinked
4 elastomer ~~selected from the group consisting of~~
5 ~~fluoroelastomers, fluorosilicone elastomers,~~ comprising at
6 least one of first blend elastomers prepared by
7 crosslinking a mixture of a raw crude silicone rubber and
8 a raw crude fluorosilicone rubber, and second blend
9 elastomers prepared by crosslinking a mixture of a raw
10 crude silicone rubber and a raw crude fluorinated rubber,
11 wherein said amount is at least 10 weight percent of a
12 total weight of said press pad.

Claim 2 (canceled).

1 3. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1,
2 wherein said at least one crosslinked elastomer further
3 comprises at least one of ~~said fluoroelastomers.~~
4 fluoroelastomer.

1 4. (original) The press pad according to claim 3, wherein said
2 at least one fluoroelastomer is an elastomer produced by
3 copolymerization of vinyl chloride with at least one of
4 hexafluoropropylene, tetrafluoroethylene,
5 1-hydropentafluoropropylene, and perfluoromethylvinylether.

1 5. (original) The press pad according to claim 4, wherein said
2 at least one fluoroelastomer is an elastomer produced by

3985/WFF:ar

- 2 -

3 terpolymerization of vinyl chloride with two of
4 hexafluoropropylene, tetrafluoroethylene,
5 1-hydropentafluoropropylene, and perfluoromethylvinylether.

1 6. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1,
2 wherein said at least one crosslinked elastomer further
3 comprises at least one ~~of said fluorosilicone elastomers.~~
4 elastomer.

1 7. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1,
2 wherein said at least one crosslinked elastomer comprises
3 at least one of said first blend elastomers.

1 8. (original) The press pad according to claim 7, wherein said
2 at least one first blend elastomer contains at least 10
3 weight percent of said fluorosilicone rubber with respect
4 to a total weight of said first blend elastomer.

1 9. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1,
2 wherein said at least one crosslinked elastomer comprises
3 at least one of said second blend elastomers.

1 10. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1,
2 wherein said woven fabric comprises warp threads and weft
3 threads woven together, and at least said warp threads or
4 said weft threads include said amount of said at least one
5 crosslinked elastomer.

6 11. (previously presented) The press pad according to claim 1,
7 wherein said woven fabric comprises warp threads and weft
8 threads woven together, and at least said warp threads or
9 said weft threads include at least one metal.

1 12. (original) The press pad according to claim 11, wherein at
2 least said warp threads or said weft threads comprise
3 threads consisting of said at least one metal.

1 13. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1,
2 wherein said woven fabric comprises warp threads and weft
3 threads woven together, and at least said warp threads or
4 said weft threads respectively comprise a thread core
5 consisting of a high-strength temperature-resistant yarn
6 material, and a coating sheath that covers said core and
7 that consists of said at least one crosslinked elastomer.

1 14. (original) The press pad according to claim 13, wherein
2 said yarn material of said thread core consists of at least
3 one metal.

1 15. (original) The press pad according to claim 14, wherein
2 said thread core consists of a plurality of individual
3 filaments of said at least one metal.

1 16. (original) The press pad according to claim 15, wherein
2 said at least one metal is selected from copper, brass,
3 high-grade alloy steel, and stainless steel, wherein said

4 filaments are strands of said metal, and wherein said core
5 is a multi-strand core made up of said strands.

1 17. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 13,
2 wherein said yarn material of said thread core is a
3 material having a higher modulus of elasticity than said at
4 least one crosslinked elastomer.

1 18. (currently amended) The press pad according to claim 1,
2 wherein said woven fabric further contains a metal powder
3 mixed into said at least one crosslinked elastomer.

1 19. (previously presented) A press pad adapted for use in high
2 temperature pressing equipment, comprising a woven fabric
3 that includes an amount of at least one fluoroelastomer
4 produced by copolymerization of vinyl chloride with at
5 least one of hexafluoropropylene, tetrafluoroethylene,
6 1-hydropentafluoropropylene, and perfluoromethylvinylether,
7 wherein said amount is at least 10 weight percent of a
8 total weight of said press pad.

1 20. (previously added) The press pad according to claim 19,
2 wherein said at least one fluoroelastomer is produced by
3 terpolymerization of vinyl chloride with two of
4 hexafluoropropylene, tetrafluoroethylene,
5 1-hydropentafluoropropylene, and perfluoromethylvinylether.

1 **21.** (previously presented) A press pad for use in a hot press,
2 consisting of a fabric that includes at least 10 weight
3 percent of a crosslinked blend elastomer produced by
4 crosslinking a mixture of a silicone rubber and a
5 fluorinated rubber or a mixture of a silicone rubber and a
6 fluorinated silicone rubber.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]

3985/WFF:ar

- 6 -